

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A composition comprising: an *Epimedium* extract for use in the treatment of prostatic hyperplasia wherein the extract comprises crude flavones and polysaccharides in a ratio of from 2:8 to 8:2 by weight of the composition, wherein ~~the total flavones~~ of the crude flavones of the extract range from 20% to 90% by weight of the crude flavones, and the molecular weight of the extract polysaccharides ranges from 1,000 to 700,000 Daltons.
2. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim 1, wherein the ratio of the crude flavones to the polysaccharides is from about 3:7 to 6:4 by weight of the composition, and wherein the ~~total flavones~~ comprise 10% to 90% by weight of icariin and icariin-1, and the molecular weight of the extract polysaccharides ranges from 45,000 to 620,000 Daltons.
3. (Currently Amended) A method of *Epimedium* herb extraction comprising the steps of:
 - adding an *Epimedium* herb to an absorption column,
 - extracting the *Epimedium* herb with a solution containing 60% to 95% of an organic solvent, recovering the organic solvent from a filtrate, subsequently washing the column with water, eluting the column with 30-85% ethanol and recovering the eluent by suction filtration, collecting all the eluent and evaporating to dryness and obtaining crude flavones, wherein ~~the total flavones~~ in the ~~*Epimedium* elute residue~~ crude flavones are about 20% to 90% by weight,

decocting [[the]] an *Epimedium* residue with water and concentrating the aqueous solution with ethanol to a concentration of 70% to 85%, filtering to obtain crude polysaccharides, dissolving the polysaccharides in water and adding chloroform n-butanol mixture (3-6:1) to precipitate protein debris, removing any polysaccharides having a molecular weight below 1000 Daltons by ultra filtration, concentrating the aqueous extract to dryness and obtaining polysaccharides having a molecular weight of from 1,000 to 700,000 Daltons, and

mixing the extracted *Epimedium* crude flavones and the polysaccharides to obtain a ratio of from 2:8 to 8:2 by weight of the composition.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 3, wherein the extract comprises *Epimedium* crude flavones and polysaccharides in a ratio from 3:7 to 6:4 by weight of composition, and wherein the extraction organic solvent comprises ethanol, propanone, isopropyl alcohol or methanol, or combinations thereof.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 4, wherein the ~~total~~ flavones of the ~~extract~~ crude flavones comprises 10-90% by weight icariin and icariin I, following the *Epimedium* polysaccharides extraction protocol the crude polysaccharides is redissolved in water, adding a sufficient quantity of ethanol to obtain a final concentration of 70% to 85%, and harvesting the refined polysaccharides by filtration, and wherein the molecular weight of polysaccharides ranges from 45,000 to 620,000 Daltons.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 5, wherein the ratio of crude flavones to polysaccharides is 3:7, 4:6, 5:5, 6:4 or 7:3, and wherein the ratios can be used alone or with any pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle/ excipients.

7.-12. (Cancelled).

13. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 1, wherein the composition is free of polysaccharides having a molecular weight below 1,000 Daltons.

14. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 2, wherein the composition is free of polysaccharides having a molecular weight below 1,000 Daltons.